



99TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2015 and 2016

HB6123

Introduced 2/11/2016, by Rep. Mike Smiddy

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

20 ILCS 1805/93.1 new
20 ILCS 2805/2

from Ch. 126 1/2, par. 67

Amends the Military Code of Illinois. Provides that all members of the Illinois National Guard shall undergo pre-deployment and post-deployment testing for depleted uranium. Requires the Department of Military Affairs to cover the costs associated with such testing. Amends the Department of Veterans Affairs Act. Requires the Department of Veterans' Affairs to provide assistance to any resident of Illinois who served on active duty for any component of the U.S. Armed Forces, excluding the Illinois National Guard, who requests a pre-deployment or post-deployment test for depleted uranium. Effective June 30, 2017.

LRB099 19687 MJP 44084 b

1 AN ACT concerning State government.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Military Code of Illinois is amended by
5 adding Section 93.1 as follows:

6 (20 ILCS 1805/93.1 new)

7 Sec. 93.1. Pre-deployment and post-deployment testing. All
8 members of the Illinois National Guard shall undergo
9 pre-deployment and post-deployment testing for depleted
10 uranium. The Department shall cover the costs associated with
11 such testing.

12 Section 10. The Department of Veterans Affairs Act is
13 amended by changing Section 2 as follows:

14 (20 ILCS 2805/2) (from Ch. 126 1/2, par. 67)

15 Sec. 2. Powers and duties. The Department shall have the
16 following powers and duties:

17 To perform such acts at the request of any veteran, or his
18 or her spouse, surviving spouse or dependents as shall be
19 reasonably necessary or reasonably incident to obtaining or
20 endeavoring to obtain for the requester any advantage, benefit
21 or emolument accruing or due to such person under any law of

1 the United States, the State of Illinois or any other state or
2 governmental agency by reason of the service of such veteran,
3 and in pursuance thereof shall:

4 (1) Contact veterans, their survivors and dependents
5 and advise them of the benefits of state and federal laws
6 and assist them in obtaining such benefits;

7 (2) Establish field offices and direct the activities
8 of the personnel assigned to such offices;

9 (3) Create and maintain a volunteer field force; the
10 volunteer field force may include representatives from the
11 following without limitation: educational institutions,
12 labor organizations, veterans organizations, employers,
13 churches, and farm organizations; the volunteer field
14 force may not process federal veterans assistance claims;

15 (4) Conduct informational and training services;

16 (5) Conduct educational programs through newspapers,
17 periodicals, social media, television, and radio for the
18 specific purpose of disseminating information affecting
19 veterans and their dependents;

20 (6) Coordinate the services and activities of all state
21 departments having services and resources affecting
22 veterans and their dependents;

23 (7) Encourage and assist in the coordination of
24 agencies within counties giving service to veterans and
25 their dependents;

26 (8) Cooperate with veterans organizations and other

1 governmental agencies;

2 (9) Make, alter, amend and promulgate reasonable rules
3 and procedures for the administration of this Act;

4 (10) Make and publish annual reports to the Governor
5 regarding the administration and general operation of the
6 Department;

7 (11) (Blank); ~~and~~

8 (12) (Blank); and -

9 (13) Provide assistance to any resident of Illinois who
10 served on active duty with any component of the U.S. Armed
11 Forces, excluding the Illinois National Guard, who
12 requests a pre-deployment or post-deployment test for
13 depleted uranium.

14 The Department may accept and hold on behalf of the State,
15 if for the public interest, a grant, gift, devise or bequest of
16 money or property to the Department made for the general
17 benefit of Illinois veterans, including the conduct of
18 informational and training services by the Department and other
19 authorized purposes of the Department. The Department shall
20 cause each grant, gift, devise or bequest to be kept as a
21 distinct fund and shall invest such funds in the manner
22 provided by the Public Funds Investment Act, as now or
23 hereafter amended, and shall make such reports as may be
24 required by the Comptroller concerning what funds are so held
25 and the manner in which such funds are invested. The Department
26 may make grants from these funds for the general benefit of

1 Illinois veterans. Grants from these funds, except for the
2 funds established under Sections 2.01a and 2.03, shall be
3 subject to appropriation.

4 The Department has the power to make grants, from funds
5 appropriated from the Korean War Veterans National Museum and
6 Library Fund, to private organizations for the benefit of the
7 Korean War Veterans National Museum and Library.

8 The Department has the power to make grants, from funds
9 appropriated from the Illinois Military Family Relief Fund, for
10 benefits authorized under the Survivors Compensation Act.

11 (Source: P.A. 99-314, eff. 8-7-15.)

12 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect June 30,
13 2017.